



Literacy (National 3)

SCQF: level 3 (6 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: H23W 73

Unit outline

The purpose of this Unit is to develop the learners' reading, listening, writing and talking skills in a variety of forms relevant for learning, life and work. Learners will develop the ability to understand simple ideas and information presented orally and in writing. Learners will also develop the ability to communicate ideas and information orally and in writing with technical accuracy.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Read and understand simple word-based texts
- 2 Listen to and understand simple spoken communication
- 3 Write simple technically accurate texts
- 4 Talk to communicate, as appropriate to audience and purpose

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the National 3 English Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit specification should be read in conjunction with the *Literacy (National 3) Unit Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support*.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent experience.

- ◆ Core Skills: Communication (SCQF level 2)
- ◆ National 2 English and Communication or relevant component Units

Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following:

Complete Core Skills for the Unit

Communication at SCQF level 3

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information, please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

- 1 Read and understand simple word-based texts by:**
 - 1.1 Selecting and using relevant information
 - 1.2 Showing awareness of aspects of language
 - 1.3 Showing awareness of effectiveness

Outcome 2

The learner will:

- 2 Listen to and understand simple spoken communication by:**
 - 2.1 Selecting and using relevant information
 - 2.2 Showing awareness of aspects of language
 - 2.3 Showing awareness of effectiveness

Outcome 3

The learner will:

- 3 Write simple technically accurate texts by:**
 - 3.1 Organising ideas appropriately in writing
 - 3.2 Selecting and using simple language including the use of appropriate spelling, grammar, and punctuation

Outcome 4

The learner will:

- 4 Talk to communicate, as appropriate to audience and purpose, by:**
 - 4.1 Organising ideas appropriately in spoken communication
 - 4.2 Communicating effectively through the selection and use of simple spoken language
 - 4.3 Using non-verbal conventions

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used. They should ensure that there is sufficient evidence of competence in the learner's evidence of literacy skills to allow a judgement to be made that the learner has achieved the Unit.

Evidence for this Unit will include:

For Outcome 1: responses to reading at least one word-based text.

For Outcome 2: responses to listening on at least one occasion.

For Outcome 3: at least one word-based text of more than 80 words which communicates meaning on first reading.

For Outcome 4: talking, individually or as part of a group discussion, on at least one occasion.

Word-based texts are likely to be functional or transactional in nature.

Where the *Literacy* (National 3) Unit is delivered as part of the National 3 English Course, further advice and guidance on integrated assessment is provided in the National 3 English *Course Support Notes*.

Exemplification of assessment is provided in *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

The SQA *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and for Work* contains generic literacy skills. The *Literacy (National 3)* Unit is derived from this framework and learners will cover all the main literacy skills. The main literacy skills are as follows:

1 Literacy

- 1.1 Reading
- 1.2 Writing
- 1.3 Listening and talking

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

5 Thinking skills

- 5.3 Applying
- 5.4 Analysing and evaluating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level of the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Literacy skills shown in this National Unit provide automatic certification of Core Skill: Communication at SCQF level 3.

Administrative information

Published: August 2017 (version 2.0)

Superclass: KB

History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
1.1	Core skill clarification.	Qualifications Development Manager	June 2013
2.0	Assessment Standards revised to further streamline with English component Units.	Qualifications Manager	August 2017

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Note: readers are advised to check SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the Unit Specification.

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